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BUSINESS MEN'S PETITION.

TO THE NATIONAL COMMISSIONERS OF THE COLUMBIAN EXPOSITION:

Gentlemen—The undersigned, citizens of the United States, request you to provide that the Exposition in your charge shall not be opened on the Sabbath, and that no labor shall be performed on that day in the preparation of the buildings and the grounds, for the following reasons:

1. Because we believe it is the will of the Creator that one day out of seven of man's time be devoted to rest and to worship.

2. Because regard for the institution of the Sabbath is deeply embedded in the life and institutions of the American people, as is witnessed by the laws of the States, the usages of her courts and legislatures and the prevailing practice of her people.

3. Because such action will be in accordance with all the best precedents in our history, the Centennial Exhibition, the important local Exposition of Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, St. Louis and Detroit, and the American departments in the Expositions at Vienna and Paris, the closing of which last on the Sabbath was recommended in a special letter of great interest from the hand of Secretary Blaine.

4. Because the coming Exposition ought to represent American institutions, and the life of American people, fairly and truthfully to the world, and an Exposition which disregards the Sabbath would be false and misleading as to the true character of our institutions.

5. Because the opposite course will make the Exposition a powerful lever to subvert American institutions in this respect, to overthrow the laws and change the usages of our government, and to alter the currents of our social life, to the injury of morals and religion.

6. Because the right to the Sabbath rest, which is one of the most important and precious rights of man, would be invaded during the whole course of the Exposition in the case of multitudes of employes and others.

7. Because for these reasons, an Exposition which disregards the Sabbath will be regarded with disfavor by great multitudes of Christian citizens who will be constrained to withhold their sympathy and co-operation.

8. Because the laws of the State of Illinois forbid common labor on the Sabbath, and it is not right or wise that a great national enterprise should set itself in opposition to the laws of the State on whose soil it is held.

SUNDAY CLOSING MOVEMENT.

The churches have very generally expressed their convictions on the subject of the opening of the World's Columbian Exposition on the Sabbath. There is still room and need for a Memorial representing especially the Civil and Business life of the Nation.

The National Reform Association has organized a "Citizens' and Business Men's Protest," and has secured letters of concurrence from distinguished officers of the National Government, from Judges of the Courts, from Presidents and Faculties of Colleges and Universities, and from many thousands of business firms.

All citizens who are willing to join in this effort are requested immediately to prepare a letter to the Commission using their own business letter heads, and simply saying, "We join," or "This firm joins in the Citizens'

Protest against the opening of the Columbian Exposition on the Sabbath." Induce other citizens and business men to do the same. Send on the letters as rapidly as possible, but keep up the work until you hear that a decision has been reached. Send the letters to the National Reform Association, 1520 Chestnut street, Philadelphia. At the proper time they will be presented to the Commission by a deputation of business men representing, if possible, every State in the Union.

LETTER TO SECRETARY.

From Louisiana.

EVANGELINE, LA., 6, 21, 1890.

Rev. R. B. HOWARD, Sec'y of American Peace Society:

Dear Sir—Enclosed I send you the money for my annual membership in the American Peace Society. I have been a working member of some peace organization for over fifty years. The Lord has blessed me in it. I came here with my family over three years since on account of my poor health; the climate has had a favorable effect on my health. We have settled here in Southwest Louisiana. I have been holding religious meetings every week in this great missionary field, and have preached practical peace sermons about twice a year, but have not taken up collections on account of the limited financial circumstances of the willing hearts. We have not built a church yet, but have built the first public school-house that has ever been on this beautiful prairie which is fifty miles in length, averaging four miles wide. The peace principles are new to the people born here. Many of them have imbibed the principle that "might makes right." We can see the fruits of such ignorance everywhere. But I bless the Lord the gospel of peace is making inroads upon the powers of darkness and ignorance. May the Lord bless the good work and especially the officials of the American Peace Society and all the redeemed of the Lord.

A. D. TOMLINSON, M. D.

—The Trieste *Press*, the leading journal of Austria, reprinted translations of the proceedings and resolutions of the Universal Peace Congress and of the International Parliamentary Conference at London. The editor remarks that he hopes by this to aid the peace movement which is of the greatest importance to the Austro-Hungarian Empire. The danger of war is from Russia, not from the Czar but the war-party. Austria relies on the Berlin Congress for peace.

—It is certainly no sign of the degeneracy of our times, that a leading daily newspaper should publish as a campaign document with heavy head lines a speech of Hon. Robert C. Winthrop, delivered in 1837! "Wisdom is justified of her children."

—It seems impossible to doubt that the common sense of the nineteenth century will demand that the nations shall submit their difficulties to arbitration. We cannot doubt that with the advance of time, and of light, men will come to see the senselessness of war, and that war will become as antiquated as tournaments, the ordeal of fire, and the burning of witches.—*National Baptist*.

—In the recent treaty between England and Portugal the principle of arbitration is adopted, and is expressed four times in Articles IX, XI, XIII, XIV.